



T E X A S
MASTER NATURALIST™
18th Annual Meeting
OCTOBER 20-22, 2017
OMNI CORPUS CHRISTI HOTEL

This year's event will mark the Texas Master Naturalist Program's 18th Annual Meeting and will be the 19th year of the program. This year's meeting will be held at the Omni Corpus Christi overlooking the western shores of the Gulf of Mexico, where the breakwaters meet the sand dunes, neotropical birds fly overhead on their migration routes and endangered sea turtles return annually to their nesting habitats. With 367 miles of coastline in Texas, Corpus Christi is situated along the southern reaches of this coastline at the mouth of the Nueces River as it flows from the hill country, through the south Texas plains and out to the Gulf.

The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for Texas Master Naturalist volunteers from around the state to gather, participate in hands-on educational seminars, and receive all of their Advanced Training requirements for the year within one weekend. It's also an opportunity for program participants and supporters to network, share new ideas/projects, and to learn from different chapters from different regions of the state. This year's meeting will also include day trips and training workshops to many local, state and even national wildlife refuges/parks, many of which will focus on the diversity of our Texas coastline and its importance for all things upstream.

Friday October 20th, 2017

Lunch on your own prior to arrival (Lunch not provided on Friday)

- 12:00 - 1:00 **Arrival and Conference Registration**
Third Floor of Omni Corpus Christi
- 1:00 - 5:00 **Friday Afternoon Field Sessions (4 hrs AT possible)**
- 1:00 - 5:30 **Friday Afternoon Advanced Training Sessions (4 AT hrs possible)**
- 3:00 - 3:30 **Hotel Room Check-in Begins**
- 5:30 - 6:00 **Shuttle Buses Leaving for Texas State Aquarium**
- 6:00 - 10:00 **Dinner and TMN Family Reunion**
Texas State Aquarium Gulf of Mexico Exhibit
- 10:00 **Final bus departs Texas State Aquarium**
Return to Omni Corpus Christi



Saturday October 21st, 2017

- 7:00 - 8:00 Conference Breakfast
- 7:00 - 8:00 Registration Open
- 8:00 - 12:00 Saturday Morning Field Sessions (4 hrs AT Possible)
- 8:00 - 12:00 Saturday Morning Advanced Training Sessions (4 hrs AT possible)
- 12:00 - 1:00 Conference Lunch
- 1:00 - 5:00 Saturday Afternoon Field Sessions (4 hrs AT possible)
- 1:00 - 5:00 Saturday Afternoon Advanced Training Sessions (4 hrs AT possible)
- 5:00 - 6:00 TMN Social, Year in Review, and Project Fair Display Judging
- 6:00 - 7:00 Dinner and Keynote Presentation
»Larry McKinney, Executive Director, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies
- 7:00 - 8:30 TMN Awards Ceremony
- 8:30 - 10:00 Black Light Station for Flying Invertebrates



Sunday October 22nd, 2017

- 6:30 - 8:00 Chapter President's and Chapter Advisors Breakfast
- 7:00 - 8:00 Conference Breakfast and Chapter Directors/Chairs Roundtables
- 8:00 - 8:45 Annual Meeting Contest Awards & Special Presentations
»Mike Tewes, Department of Animal, Rangeland, and Wildlife Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
- 9:00 - 12:00 Sunday Morning Advanced Training Sessions (3 AT hrs possible)
- 12:00 - 1:00 Conference Closes (Lunch on your own)